

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Previously presented) A compound characterized in that it consists of a peptide chosen from:

a peptide consisting of the sequence SEQ ID NO: 1 below:

SEQ ID No: 1 Lys-Ala-Lys-Pro-Val-Gln-Lys-Leu-Asp-Asp-Asp-Asp-Gly-Asp-Asp-Thr-Tyr-Lys-Glu-Glu-Arg-His-Asn-Lys

and

a peptide consisting of the sequence SEQ ID NO: 1 plus an additional N-terminal cysteine residue.

2 – 5 (Cancelled)

6. (Currently amended) A compound ~~as claimed in claim 1, wherein said~~ consisting of a peptide is coupled to a single carrier protein, and wherein the coupling to the carrier protein is by one of the following means: chemically coupling said peptide to said carrier protein; or by the addition of a DNA coding sequence of said peptide before or after a DNA coding sequence of said carrier protein and expressing and purifying the resulting fusion protein. wherein said peptide is selected from the group consisting of:

a peptide consisting of the sequence SEQ ID NO: 1 below:

SEQ ID No: 1 Lys-Ala-Lys-Pro-Val-Gln-Lys-Leu-Asp-Asp-Asp-Asp-Gly-Asp-Asp-Thr-Tyr-Lys-Glu-Glu-Arg-His-Asn-Lys

and

a peptide consisting of the sequence SEQ ID NO: 1 plus an additional N-terminal cysteine residue;

wherein said compound does not consist of the PPL protein.

7 – 20 (Cancelled)

21. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a peptide compound as claimed in claim 1, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier[[]], wherein said peptide is selected from the group consisting of:

a peptide consisting of the sequence SEQ ID NO: 1 below:

SEQ ID No: 1 Lys-Ala-Lys-Pro-Val-Gln-Lys-Leu-Asp-Asp-Asp-Asp-Gly-Asp-Asp-Thr-Tyr-Lys-Glu-Glu-Arg-His-Asn-Lys

and

a peptide consisting of the sequence SEQ ID NO: 1 plus an additional N-terminal cysteine residue.

22. (Previously Presented) The composition as claimed in claim 21, wherein it is a vaccine.

23 – 28 (Cancelled)

29. (Currently amended) A compound ~~according to claim 1~~ comprising ~~the~~ a pharmaceutically acceptable ~~salts~~ salt of ~~said~~ a peptide[[]], wherein said peptide is selected from the group consisting of:

a peptide consisting of the sequence SEQ ID NO: 1 below:

SEQ ID No: 1 Lys-Ala-Lys-Pro-Val-Gln-Lys-Leu-Asp-Asp-Asp-Asp-Gly-Asp-Asp-Thr-Tyr-Lys-Glu-Glu-Arg-His-Asn-Lys

and

a peptide consisting of the sequence SEQ ID NO: 1 plus an additional N-terminal cysteine residue.

30. (New) A compound according to claim 6, wherein said peptide is coupled to said carrier protein by one of the following means:

chemically coupling said peptide to said carrier protein; or

by the addition of a DNA coding sequence of said peptide before or after a DNA coding sequence of said carrier protein and expressing and purifying the resulting fusion protein.

31. (New) A compound according to claim 6, wherein said single carrier protein is selected from the group consisting of: the keyhole limpet hemocyanin (KLH) protein and the bovine serum albumin (BSA) protein.